

Day 01: Arrive Delhi

Arrive at Delhi International Airport. On arrival at Delhi Airport our meet & greet team will receive and transfer you to the hotel. Overnight at the Hotel.

Day 02: Delhi

After Breakfast proceed for half day City Tour of New Delhi visiting Qutab Minar, Humayun's Tomb, India Gate (War Memorial Arch), also drive past Presidents House, Parliament House and Connaught Place shopping Centre of New Delhi. Then we take you for a tour of Old Delhi visiting Red Fort, Jama Masjid & Raj Ghat. Also drive past Chandni Chowk the shopping center of Old Delhi.



The **Qutab Minar** (also spelled *Qutb* or *Qutub*, Urdu: **قُطْب مَنَار**), a tower in Delhi, India, is the world's tallest brick minaret.^[2] Construction commenced in 1193 under the orders of India's first Muslim ruler Qutb-ud-din Aibak, and the topmost storey of the minaret was completed in 1386 by Firuz Shah Tughluq. The Qutb Minar is notable for being one of the earliest and most prominent examples of Indo-Islamic architecture. Inspired by the Minaret of Jam in Afghanistan and wishing to surpass it, Qutb-ud-din Aibak, the first Muslim ruler of Delhi, commenced construction of the Qutb Minar in 1193, but could only complete its base. His successor, Iltutmish, added three more stories and, in 1386, Firuz Shah Tughluq constructed the fifth and the last story. The development of architectural styles from Aibak to Tughluq are quite evident in the minaret. Like earlier towers erected by the Ghaznavids and Ghurids in Afghanistan, the Qutb Minar comprises several superposed flanged and cylindrical shafts, separated by balconies carried on Muqarnas corbels. The minaret is made of fluted red sandstone covered with intricate carvings and verses from the Qur'an. The Qutb Minar is itself built on the ruins of Lal Kot, the Red Citadel in the city of Dhillika, the capital of the Tomars and the Chauhans, the last Hindu rulers of Delhi. **The Red Fort** and the city of Shahjahanabad was constructed by the Emperor Shah Jahan in 1639 A.D. The Red Fort was originally referred to as "Qila-i-Mubarak" (the blessed fort), because it was the residence of the royal family. The layout of the Red Fort was organised to retain and integrate this site with the Salimgarh Fort. The fortress palace is an important focal point of the medieval city of Shahjahanabad. The planning and aesthetics of the Red Fort represent the zenith of Mughal creativity which prevailed during the reign of Emperor Shah Jahan. This Fort has had many developments added on after its construction by Emperor Shah Jahan. The significant phases of development were under Aurangzeb and later Mughal rulers. Important physical changes were carried out in the overall settings of the site after the First War of Independence during British Rule in 1857. After Independence, the site experienced a few changes in terms of addition/alteration to the structures. During the British period the Fort was mainly used as a cantonment and even after Independence, a significant part of the Fort remained under the control of the Army until the year 2003. On 15 August 1947, India became an independent nation. This was marked by Jawahar Lal Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, unveiling the flag of independent India on 15 August 1947. This practice of unfurling the national flag with a speech by the Prime Minister on Independence Day continues to this day.

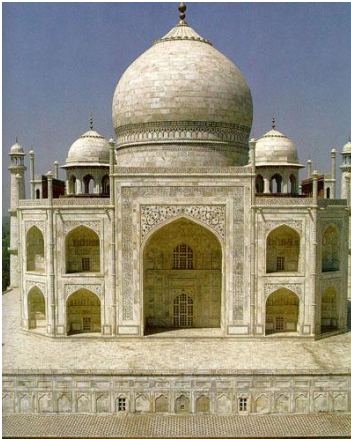


Day 03: Delhi – Agra: (aprox 4-5hrs drive / 200 kms)

After a leisurely breakfast, drive to Agra. This evening is to relax and overnight stay in Agra.

Day 04: Agra

Visit Taj Mahal at sunrise. Return to the hotel for a leisurely breakfast. After breakfast full day tour of Agra city visiting Taj Mahal and later in the afternoon sightseeing of Red Fort and visit to Bazaars for shopping etc. In the evening enjoy the private Magic Show at your hotel. Overnight stay at hotel in Agra.



Taj Mahal is regarded as one of the eight wonders of the world, and some Western historians have noted that its architectural beauty has never been surpassed. The Taj is the most beautiful monument built by the Mughals, the Muslim rulers of India. Taj Mahal is built entirely of white marble. Its stunning architectural beauty is beyond adequate description, particularly at dawn and sunset. The Taj seems to glow in the light of the full moon. On a foggy morning, the visitors experience the Taj as if suspended when viewed from across the Jamuna river. Taj Mahal was built by Emperor **Shah Jahan** (died 1666 C.E.) in the memory of his dear wife and queen **Mumtaz** at Agra, India. It is an "**elegy in marble**" or some say an expression of a

"dream." Taj Mahal (meaning Crown Palace) is a Mausoleum that houses the grave of queen Mumtaz Mahal at the lower chamber. The grave of Shah Jahan was added to it later. The queen's real name was **Arjumand Banu**. In the tradition of the Mughals, important ladies of the royal family were given another name at their marriage or at some other significant event in their lives, and that new name was commonly used by the public. Shah Jahan's real name was Shahab-ud-din, and he was known as Prince Khurram before ascending to the throne in 1628.

Day 05: Agra – Jaipur: (aprox 05hrs drive / 250kms)

Via Bharatpur & Fatehpur Sikri:

After breakfast drive to Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary enroute visit Fatehpur Sikri. We take a two-hour rickshaw ride at Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary. Lunch suggested at Bharatpur Forest Lodge. After lunch drive to Jaipur. Arrive Jaipur and transfer to your hotel. Overnight stay at hotel in Jaipur.



Bharatpur (Ghana) Bird Sanctuary : Ghana is one of the best bird sanctuaries in India. Water birds assemble here during the months of **July/August** and breed till October. The open billed store greater & lesser egret, darter, spoonbill and hereon are some of the birds seen here Lucky visitors can spot the rare Siberian Crane that

migrates to this preserve annually. Also found are chital black buck, deer and other varieties of animals. **Fatehpur Sikri** : The deserted city of Emperor Akbar literally means the City of Victory. The audience halls palace and mosques are still perfectly preserved as are the tomb of Sheikh Salim Chisti, Panchmahal and the Buland Darwaza.



Day 06: Jaipur

0830hrs :After breakfast we drive outside the city to the rugged hills that surround Jaipur city to see Amber Fort where a painted elephant will take you up to the fort with its huge gateways and pillared pavilions. Afternoon sightseeing of the City visiting Hawa Mahal, City Palace, Museum and Jantar Mantar Observatory. Overnight at your hotel.

Jaipur is the first planned city of India, located in the desert lands of Rajasthan. The city that once had been the capital of the royalty, now serves as the capital city of Rajasthan. The very structure of Jaipur resembles the taste of the Rajputs and the Royal family. In the present date, Jaipur is the major business centre for the natives of Rajasthan with all requisites of a metropolitan city. The city of Jaipur, painted in pink, grasp the appreciation of every visitor. One can see that hoary charm still alive in the avenues of Jaipur. The active streets of Jaipur get plenty of visitors, every year at their



footsteps. The Ancient Testimonials in the form of mind-blowing monuments remind one of the past ages. The city comprises the famous structures like Hawa Mahal, City Palace and Amber Fort, the best architectural examples of India. Artistic temples and gardens of Jaipur, marks the atmosphere of serenity and aestheticism to the lands of Rajasthan. The lively city observes its ethnicity by celebrating various festivals like Kite festival, Elephant festival and many others, of Indian origin. All these features make Jaipur, one of the most sought after tourist destinations of Rajasthan, India. The glorious city boasts of its cultural heritage from every nook and corner. Jaipur is the reservoir of Indian customs, traditions, civilization and legacy. Jaipur lies at a distance of 260 kms from Delhi, the capital of India and the city is well-connected with other major cities of India. Every year, People across the globe come to experience this royal capital city of Rajasthan.



Morning: After breakfast we drive outside the city to the rugged hills that surround Jaipur city to see Amber Fort where a painted elephant will take you up to the fort with its huge gateways and pillared pavilions. Afternoon visit to Hawa Mahal, City Palace, Museum and Jantar Mantar Observatory. Overnight at your hotel.

Day 07: Jaipur –Delhi

After breakfast,drive to Delhi.On arrival check in to the hotel.Afternoon free for own activities or shopping.Overnight at Hotel.

Day 08: Delhi Departure

Like all good things,your holiday experience in North India comes to an end but you will always carry with you memories of this unique and unforgettable experience.Today, you will be assisted and transferred to Delhi International airport for your flight home or for onward journey to South !!



©2008 to 2010, All rights reserved to Kerala Voyages®.
For customization contact: tours@keralavoyages.com
Visit us @ www.keralavoyages.com
24/7 Support: +91 94470 34631